Five die, several injured in three accidents

LAHORE: As many as five people were killed while many others injured in three major road accidents that took place in various parts of the city here on Sunday.

On Raiwind Road, three persons died while 11 others injured, four of them critically, when a bus carrying passengers of a wedding party reportedly collided with a trailer here on Sunday night.

The fatal accident took place on Jia Bagha Road and multiple teams of the emergency services were dispatched to the spot.

A spokesperson for the Rescue 1122 said the teams pulled out from the damaged bus some 11 injured persons, including women, and shifted them to the hospitals.

Seven of them were taken to the Lahore General Hospital due to the multiple head and other bone fractures/injuries while four others in a hospital near Raiwind.

He said three of them later breathed their last due to critical injuries.

The police have launched investigations into the fatal accident with the help of the safe city cameras to find out the cause of the incident.

In another such episode, a truck allegedly ran over two motorcyclists at Masoom Shah Road of Badami Bagh, leaving both of them critically injured.

They were immediately taken to a local hospital where they breathed their last due to the serious head and neck injuries.

Identified as Zeshan (25) and Haseeb (20), the young men were cousins and going to a local market when the truck crushed them on the busiest road.

There were some conflicting reports regarding the accident as some eyewitnesses attributed it to the rash driving of the young motorcyclists while others declared it a negligence of the truck driver.

According to the reports, the local residents overpowered the truck driver who was later identified as Ghazanfar and handed him over to the police after giving him a sound thrashing for criminal negligence.

As many as six persons were injured, two of them seriously, in another accident that occurred on the Canal Road near Harbanspura. As per the reports, a recklessly driven car overturned and crashed into two motorcycle riders.

All the injured persons were immediately taken to local hospitals while the police launched investigations into the incident.

Quoting initial inquiry reports, a police official claimed that the car driver was rashly driving it on the major busy artery that led to the accident.

He said the car riders were also among the injured persons and police were probing to find out the facts. — **Staff Reporter**

TikToker arrested for uploading objectionable videos

BAHAWALPUR: The National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency (NCCIA) in Multan arrested a TikToker for allegedly uploading objectionable videos of a man on social media.

According to the sources, the agency arrested Usman Shabbir, who had allegedly uploaded the complainant's objectionable videos on social media.

The NCCIA produced him in a Multan court that granted the agency three day's physical remand to recover more videos from his possession and forensic scrutiny of his mobile phone.

CASE: Karampur police in the Mailsi tehsil of Vehari district arrested 11 spectators, two dancers and booked 28 people in a raid at a private marriage hall.

According to Mailsi police officials, a marriage function was going on when the raid was conducted. The women were dancing on music, violating amplifier act. The police stopping the dance and fireworks, arrested two women of Lahore and 11 people, including Muhammad Tahir Arian, Shakil, Altaf etc. Twenty-eight were booked under different charges. The police seized the fireworks and lodged the arrested men and women in the lock-up. — Correspondent

LAHORE: Demolition of shops goes on at Neela Gumbad for construction of a parking plaza. — White Star

New policy for postgraduate training ruffles doctors' feathers

Critics find CIP-2026 tilted in favour of foreign, private medical graduates, damaging those from local public sector institutes

By Asif Chaudhry

LAHORE: The Punjab government has announced a newly revised Central Induction Policy-2026 for the postgraduate training under the FCPS and MD/MS programmes, introducing many controversial features/changes, severely damaging prospects of the graduates of the public sector medical institutions.

In the new policy, the authorities have reduced up to 50pc marks for the induction of government medical institutes' graduates in training programmes in January 2026 and completely abolished the same for the next process (induction) to be made in July 2026.

In the earlier policy for the residency programmes, 10 marks were awarded to them for serving in primary & secondary healthcare facilities and Punjab Employees Social Security Institute (PESSI)while up to 15 for work at jail hospitals.

The primary and secondary health facilities included basic health units (BHUs), rural health centres (RHCs), tehsil headquarter hospitals (THQs) and district headquarters hospitals (DHQs).

The critics allege that the strong lobbies in the power corridors have influenced the processes to help the foreign and private medical graduates to secure maximum number of residency seats, inflicting major dent to those who graduated from the government sector institutes with distinctive marks and served at the abovementioned health facilities. They fear that under the new policy, the private and foreign graduates may occupy 70/80 percent of the residency slots if the controversial policy is not reviewed forthwith.

The revised CIP-2026 has triggered a strong backlash across the government medical community, with government medical graduates finding their future dark as they dubbed the policy absolutely as 'a death toll' for the high-merit graduates/aspirants of the public sector institutions.

A notification of new CIP-2026 was issued by the Specialised Healthcare & Medical Education Department here the other day pursuant to the decision made in the Postgraduate Admission Committee (PGAC) meeting held on Nov 13, 2025.

About the eligibility/pre-qualifications, the policy says that a total five points shall be awarded for claiming experience at primary, secondary and tertiary care hospitals. Of them, 1.25 points shall be given against experience at the primary care level (only BHUs, RHCs, for each three months without any gap/interruption in the same institutes).

Similarly, 0.75 points for reach three months without any gap shall be allocated for serving at secondary healthcare facilities including the THQ, DHQ (non-teaching hospitals), major hospitals of PESSI with 100 beds and above strength only, etc, and 0.5 points against experience at tertiary healthcare level, including Pakistan Kidney and Liver Institute and Multan Institute of Kidney Diseases.

The other marks/points shall be given for working in jail hospitals (further classifying them shift-wise – morning, evening and night). In the earlier policy, these points were reportedly being marked up to 15, subject to the period of working at the jail hospitals (above one year).

The new policy clearly defined that the five points allocated for working in primary, secondary, tertiary care, jail and PESSI health facilities shall not be awarded in the postgraduate induction to be made in July 2026.

"The marks for working experience of primary, secondary, tertiary care health facilities and PESSI and jail hospitals as per clause B (iii) (a-d) as mentioned above shall be discontinued for July 2026 induction and onwards," reads the notification.

An official, privy to the information, declares the CIP-26 a controversial shift, saying it has not only reduced the experience marks up to 50 percent for January induction but also withdrawn the same for the next induction to be made in July 2026 and onward.

He alleges that the new policy has completely abolished the points the government graduates used to claim in previous settings under the head of the 'parent institute marks', the house job marks (in parent institute) and the Matric & FSc marks. Similarly, the marks which were earlier allocated for doing work in peripheries have also been abolished, he said. For years, these marks had served as the only recognition for the doctors who worked in some of the most under-resourced public health facilities in Punjab.

The official says that the decision to withdraw these points is nothing but a targeted strike against government graduates who have already borne the brunt of low pay, overwhelming workload, and systemic instability.

Adding to the outcry is the broader restructuring of merit criteria, which has effectively eliminated institutional preference for graduates seeking training in their parent institutions, he says.

A former leader of the Young Doctors Association Punjab and representative of South Punjab Medical Forum, Dr Mian Adnan, urges the government to review this unjust and unfair policy which is tantamount to a total discouragement for indigenous and hard working students who get through admission to public sector medical colleges after one of the toughest competitive examination system.

"For thousands of young doctors who completed house jobs and early careers in government hospitals, the new policy drastically reduces their chances of securing residency seats," he says.

Dr Adnan adds that the move tilts the playing field sharply in favour of private-sector applicants, who neither serve in remote government facilities nor face the harsh working conditions that public-sector physicians routinely endure.

Another senior medic says the doctors who spent years in the BHUs and RHCs — who kept the primary healthcare network running — will now get no recognition at all.

"It is demoralising, unfair, and completely disconnected from ground realities," he laments, adding that the decision has sparked frustration among the young graduates, many of whom now fear that their long-term career paths have become uncertain.

On the other hand, the social media platforms are flooded with testimonies from doctors describing the policy as 'devastating, anti-graduate', and a deliberate attempt to dismantle merit for government doctors.

University of Health Sciences (UHS) Vice Chancellor Prof Ahsan Waheed Rathore rejects the allegations of discrimination, saying that both the government and private medical graduates were provided with an equal opportunity in the revised policy. He was also part of the Postgraduate Admission Committee like other VCs and principals of state-run medical institutions. The committee had reviewed the policy and furnished the recommendations.

To a question regarding abolishing of working experience at primary, secondary and other hospitals, he says the private medical graduates are also serving there and they reserve the right to be considered for induction in postgraduate residency programmes.

About FC, Matric exams marks, he termed them irrelevant, saying they (marks) had nothing to do with the induction in residency programme after the aspirants obtained MBBS degrees.

The Punjab health minister and the secretary didn't reply to the text messages and calls made to them by this reporter to seek their version.

27 sugar mills start crushing across Punjab

Defaulters to face action

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: As many as 27 sugar mills have started sugarcane crushing in line with the Punjab government's notification. The sugar mills that defaulted on beginning crushing on Monday (today) will be liable to face action.

The Punjab government has notified, under the Punjab Sugar Factories (Control) Act 1950, that the occupiers of sugar factories in Punjab shall start crushing of sugarcane from Nov 15.

The Punjab cane commissioner says the sugar mills not launching sugarcane crushing by Monday (today) will be slapped with a Rs1 million fine on a daily basis. The commissioner says monitoring teams have been constituted to inspect mills.

A Punjab price control and commodities management department spokesman says 27 sugar mills have started sugarcane crushing including Makka, Madina, Baba Farid, Hunza, Ramzan, Noon, Chiniot, Tariq Corporation, Safina, Hunza Jhang, Kashmir, Layyah, Tandlianwala, Joharabad, and Seven Star.

The spokesman says 11 sugar mills will start crushing during the current week. The spokesman says the department has constituted monitoring committees at deputy commissioners' level and will submit their reports to the department on a weekly basis.

The spokesman said the sugarcane crushing season would help stabilise sugar prices in the market. The department has also set up desks at districts' level for the prompt payment to the farmers.

LITERARY NOTES

K. A. Nizami on history and culture of Islam and India

By Rauf Parekh

DURING the reign of Mughal Emperor Akbar, "reading and knowing the Arabic language became a vice, fiqh, tafseer and hadith were thrown back and accursed" and an effort was made to "purge the Arabic letters from common language", wrote Abdul Qadir Badayuni (1540-1615), the renowned historian, in his *Muntakhabut-Tavaareekh* (vol. 2, p. 320). Quoting these words, K. A. Nizami says it prompted Muslim scholars in India to write books as they had realised that such dangerous ideas could jeopardise the whole system of Quranic teachings. The scholar who wrote the first book in India on the issue, stressing the importance of learning and promoting *tajveed* (rules describing ways to recite Quran with phonetic accuracy), was Sheikh Abdul Haq Muhaddis Dehlvi. His book *Ad-Durr-ul-Fareed Fil-Qirat Vat-Tajveed* was followed by other works.

In another article, while discussing orientalists and their ideological attachments, Nizami says that despite their great feats in research on Islam's history and culture, most of the orientalists failed to comprehend the inner meanings of Islam. The reason, says Nizami, is that western scholars' works were based on certain motives, which were in turn influenced by their religious prejudices, political considerations and their own economic ideas. Then he goes on to recount how orientalists felt about and wrote on Islam in different phases, beginning from curiosity in the early phase to bias in the post-crusade era, turning to teaching of Islam at western universities, researching under foreign policy directives from their governments in colonial era and then having an understanding with the Zionists in the times of petrodollar, shifting from explaining to analysing and spreading the idea of Arab nationalistic feelings to destroy the unity among Muslims. And then Nizami analyses their motives and methods, in his usual way — erudite but flowing smoothly, convincing but unemotional and composed though sometimes unsettling with logical analysis.

These articles are included in the book *Tareekh-o-Tamaddun-e-Islam* (history and culture of Islam), published under the title *Maqaalaat-e-Nizami*, a series collecting K. A. Nizami's articles in six volumes. These articles were published in numerous periodicals from time to time, but by collecting and publishing them in six volumes, some 28 years after the author's death, the Anjuman Taraqqi-e-Urdu Hind (ATUH), Delhi, has done a favour that will be dearly cherished for years to come. The other five volumes in the series are titled: *Tasavvuf Aur Soofiya* (Sufism and Sufis), *Hazrat Amir Khusrau*, *Tareekh-o-Tamaddun-e-Hind* (history and culture of India) *Sir Syed Aur Aligarh Tehreek* (Sir Syed and Aligarh Movement) and *Dilli Tareekh ke Aaene Mein* (Delhi in historical perspective).

Ever since the worsening of relations between the two countries and discontinuation of postal services, the arrival of books and magazines from India through mail has totally stopped. But ATUH has done us another favour by authorising Lahore's World View Publishers to reproduce these six volumes locally. They have done a good job by reprinting the six volumes elegantly. So, Pakistani readers now can enjoy reading them.

Pro Khaliq Ahmed Nizami is considered among the most respected and authentic historians from the Indo-Pak subcontinent. Born on December 5, 1925 in Amroha, British India, Nizami remained associated for about half-a-century with Aligarh Muslim University's department of History, serving as professor as well as vice chancellor. He had command over several languages, including Arabic, Persian and English, which enabled him to consult the original sources in these languages, unlike today's university teachers who almost totally rely on secondary sources in Urdu. Nizami consulted in these languages not only political histories but also sifted through travel accounts, biographies, autobiographies, memoirs, letters, administrative accounts and some hagiographical writings in these languages.

Nizami, taking raw material from historical facts and authentic sources, draws a picture of India and Islam in India that is reflective of congenial social and religious atmosphere enjoyed by the followers of all the religions and sects, that is, despite persistent political upheavals and economic meltdowns. This social order was built on human values and mutual respect, emanating from Islam's basic tenant that all humans are equal, and which was practised by Muslim Sufis and saints in a society haunted by Hindu caste system.

Some of K. A. Nizam's works are both in Urdu and English. Nizami's books include: *Tareekh-e-Mashaaikh-e-Chisht*, *Shah Valiullah Dehlvi Ke Siyasi Maktoobaat*, *Salaateen-e-Dehli Ke Mazhabi Rujhaanaat*, *Life and Times of Sheikh Nizamuddin Aulia*, *Some Aspects of Religion and Politics in India During the 13th century*, *The Life and Times of Shaikh Nasiruddin Chiragh-e-Dehli*, *Medieval India: A Miscellany, Delhi in Historical Perspectives*, *Sayyid Ahmed Khan* and *A Comprehensive History of India*. He died in Aligarh on December 4, 1997.